

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PA-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4935

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405 CSG

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 5092

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, RP

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REVERSION OF 9600 SQUARE METERS OF VOA SITE
AT CAMP WALLACE

REF: MANILA 736 DTG 240954 Z JAN 72

1. APPARENTLY IN 1968 THE GOP INITIALLY ASKED FOR
REVERSION OF A SMALL STRIP OF LAND OF VOA TRANSMITTING STATION
AT PORO POINT WHICH IS SITED ON CAMP WALLACE. AUTHORITY
FOR THE US TO SITE THE STATION ON CAMP WALLACE WAS CONVEYED
IN DFA NOTE NO. 2089, JAN 23, 1951.)

2. THERE IS A PRESIDENTIAL RESTHOUSE AT THE PHIL NAVY
STATION AT PORO POINT WHICH IS ADJACENT TO THE MOA COM-
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POUND; INSIDE THE LATTER COMPOUND IS A CONVENIENT OPEN AREA WHERE THE PRESIDENTIAL HELICOPTERS CAN LAND. THE STRIP OF LAND THE GOP DESIRES ENCOMPASSES THIS HELIPAD. REVERSION OF THIS STRIP WOULD REQUIRE MOVING THE VOA FENCE BACK, BUT WOULD NOT DEGRADE THE SECURITY OF THE VOA COMPOUND.

3. THE US TURNED DOWN THE ORIGINAL GOP REQUEST, BUT USIA INDICATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO AGREE TO THE REVERSION IN USIA 20288 OF DEC 10, 1969. THE PROJECT FELL INTO ABEYANCE FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND WAS NOT REVIVED BY THE GOP UNTIL THE MBA WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS OF 1971-72. VOA PORO POINT NOW WISHES TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT,

HOWEVER, BECAUSE THE PRESENT SETUP IS INCONVENIENT AND REQUIRES WASTEFUL EXPENDITURE OF VOA EMPLOYEES TIME IN ATTEMPTING TO BE RESPONSIVE TO NEEDS OF PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY GUARDS IN OPENING AND CLOSING OF COMPOUND GATE. 13 TH AIR FORCE CONCURS IN REVERSION AS DOES EMBASSY. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF THE PROJECT HAS TAKEN PLACE

IN THE METES AND BOUNDS COMMITTEE OF THE US- RP MUTUAL DEFENSE BOARD END A SURVEY OF THE LAND IN QUESTION HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN BY THE PHILIPPINE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS. PENDING COMPLETION OF SURVEY, EMBASSY PROPOSES FOLLOWING NOTE BE SENT TO DFA.

QUOTE..... AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO ARTICLE I OF THE 1947 US- RP MILITARY BASES AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH THE UNITED STATES WAS GRANTED THE USE OF CERTAIN LANDS TO ESTABLISH BASES; TO THE EMBASSY'S NOTE NO. 0848 OF JANUARY 22, 1951 AND THE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY T ERETO NO. 2089 OF JANUARY 23, 1951, WHICH APPROVED THE SETTING UP OF BROADCASTING FACILITIES AT CAMP WALLACE; AND TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REGARDING RADIO BROADCASTING FACILITIES, SIGNED AT MANILA ON NAY 6, 1963, AND THE PROTOCOL THERETO SIGNED ON THE SAME DATE. THE PROTOCOL MAKES REFERENCE TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY ON WHICH RADIO
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TRANSMITTING AND RECEIVING FACILITIES HAVE BEEN ERECTED OR INSTALLED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THESE PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY ARE LISTED IN THE PROTOCOL AND INCLUDE THE PORO POINT VOICE OF AMERICA RADIO TRANSMITTING STATION WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE CAMP WALLACE MILITARY RESERVATION, AN ANNEX A BASE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES HAS REQUESTED THAT AN AREA OF SOME 9600 SQUARE METERS OF THE LAND ON WHICH THE VOA RADIO TRANSMITTING STATION IS LOCATED, ADJACENT TO THE PHILIPPINE NAVY'S PORO NAVAL STATION, BE RELINQUISHED IN ORDER TO PERMIT THE IMPROVEMENT OF SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRESIDENTIAL VISITS TO PORO NAVAL STATION.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO ACCEDE TO THIS REQUEST, FOLLOWING A SURVEY OF THE AREA IN QUESTION WHICH THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THE METES AND BOUNDS COMMITTEE OF THE US- RP MUTUAL DEFENSE BOARD HAS AUTHORIZED. THE SURVEY OF THE 9600 SQUARE METERS OF CAMP WALLACE WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE PHILIPPINE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS. THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUREAU OF LANDS AND THE 13 TH AIR FORCE HAVE INDICATED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT SUCH A SURVEY.

THE EMBASSY PROPOSES THAT WHEN THE ABOVE MENTIONED SURVEY IS COMPLETED, THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ENTER INTO AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES IN ORDER TO RECORD THIS RELINQUISHMENT FORMALLY. COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE. END QUOTE.

4. REQUEST COMMENTS/ APPROVAL. BYROADE

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